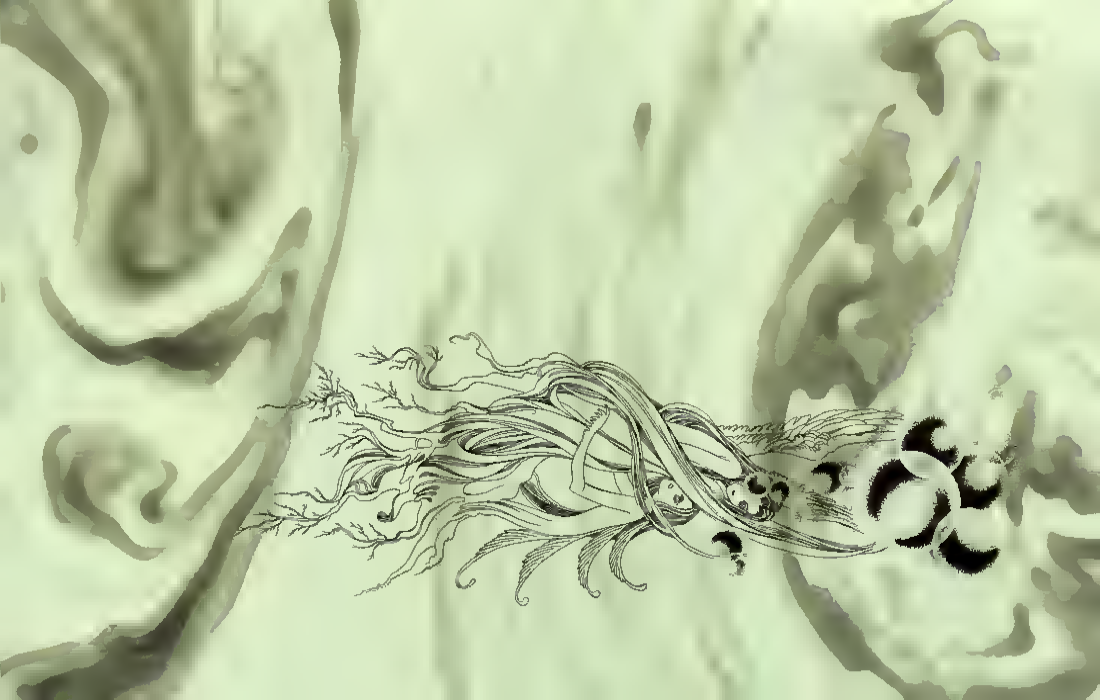

アリキーノ
ALICHINO

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...Will you go there?
The place where you lost everything and were reborn again?
Chapter 12 ~ Reunion

Scanned by Team Iscariote from #iscariote from irc.kewl.org

Character Introductions

Kind and at the same time cruel, timidity together with ferocity. And able to grant any wish. Alchino. Its price is large.

Possessing the sole power able to give death to the soul of an Alchino. The Power of the Bond. Tsugiri's soul is targeted by an Alchino of powerful force.

Roushouki:
His subordinate Matsuika attacks. Tsugiri and Enju is taken away. In order to save Enju, Tsugiri and Ryouko, leave on a journey pursuing Matsuika, but there's a complicated past between Matsuika and Myoubi's master, Ryouko.

...I'M SO HAPPY
AGAIN...
ON THIS EARTH!!
ザ…
WE CAN MEET AGAIN..

THE THREE OF US...
WHOOOSH...
HOW UN-PLEA-SANT ...
EVEN THOUGH I'M RIGHT HERE...

RYOUKO
THAT OLD GRAVE WHERE YOU WERE JUST OFFERING A FLOWER...
SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
FRIEND?
I WAS LIVING IN THIS CITY FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
IT'S MY FRIEND'S GRAVE.

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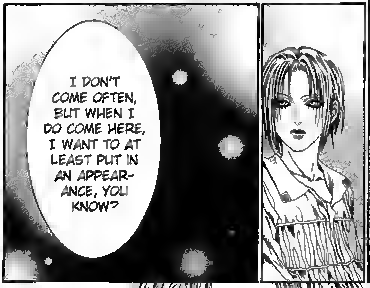

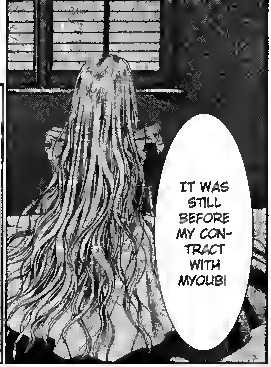

NOW, NO ONE BUT ME VISITS THAT GRAVE ANYMORE, SO...
A REALLY IMPORTANT PERSON TO YOU, HUH?
...
...I GUESS YOU COULD SAY THAT
NOW GO TO SLEEP ALREADY.
IMPORTANT... HUH?
STILL...

NOTHING'S OVER YET
HEY... IT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME FOR A WHILE, BUT...
MATSU-LIKA'S WAY OF KILLING HUMANS UNTIL NOW
IT'S NOT THE SPIRIT, BUT THE FLESH SHE DESTROYS ...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S UNLIKE AN ALICHINO?

'TIL NOW ...
WE'VE BEEN ENGROSSED IN FOLLOWING MATSULIKA, BUT...
WHEN I'M ENGULFED IN THAT STENCH OF BLOOD...
SOMETIMES I GET REALLY TERRIFIED.
UNTIL NOW, IT WAS OBVIOUS I WAS GOING TO LOSE THINGS...
CAN I REALLY SAVE ENJU...?

WHEN YOU'RE WANDERING, THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU'RE LED TOWARDS FAILURE EVEN IF THINGS ARE GOING WELL
WHACK
IT'S NOT "CAN I DO IT," IT'S "I'LL DO IT."
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS
WAH !?
...AND ENJU'S WAITING FOR YOU
YEAH
Ouch
CHUCKLE
YOU...
REEEALLY LIKE ENJU, DON'T YOU?

TO ME...
HE'S AN IMPORTANT PART OF MY FAMILY.
IMPORTANT...
.....

RYOUKO...
WHOOSH...
HIBI... KI.
RYOUKO?

DARKNESS..
A'LALIGH THAT HURTS ONE'S EARS
BLOOD AND...
NO ONE BUT MYSELF...
TO THAT EXTENT...
RYOUKO!?
HEHE...
GO BACK TO THE INN, ALL RIGHT!?
EH!?
WH-
.DON'T MOVE FROM THIS SPOT.
IF HE'S HERE, THEN THAT MEANS...!

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)

STRANGE, ISN'T IT...
SOME-WHERE... MORE THAN DREAD, I EVEN FEEL ANTICI-PATION.
EVEN THOUGH FULFILLMENT OF THE CONTRACT MEANS THE END WILL COME FOR ME...
I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO IT SO MUCH THAT IT HURTS...

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Chapter 13 -
Flower
of Blood

PANT
PANT
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON?
YOU'RE A FAST RUNNER, RYOUKO
HE TOLD ME NOT TO MOVE ...
HOWEVER, WITHOUT THINKING I CAME...
BUT...
HE WENT SO FAR AS THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CITY HUH

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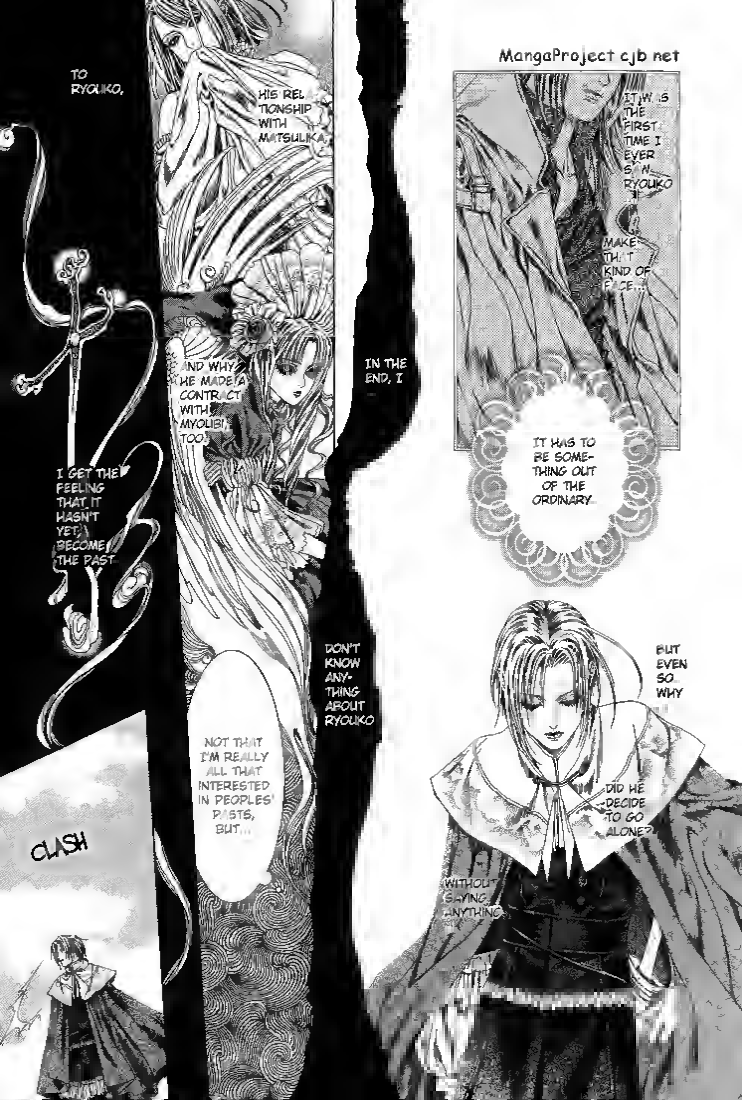

TO RYOUKO,
I GET THE FEELING THAT IT HASN'T YET BECOME THE PAST.
CLASH
HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH MITSUKA,
AND WHY HE MADE A CONTRACT WITH MYOUJIN, TOO?
NOT THAT I'M REALLY ALL THAT INTERESTED IN PEOPLES' PASTS, BUT...
IN THE END, I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT RYOUKO
IT WAS THE FIRST TIME I EVER SAW RYOUKO LIKE THAT.
MAKE THAT KIND OF FACE...
IT HAS TO BE SOMETHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY.
BUT EVEN SO, WHY
DID HE DECIDE TO GO ALONE?
WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING...

THAT'S ?
NOT ANJ ALI-CHINO
BUT SOMETHING IS STRANGE
RYOUKO ...!!
THERE'S NO SENSE THAT IT'S ALIVE!
SFX: KCLENCHES SWORD?

THAT PERSON ...!
THIS GUY IS MY FRIEND
I TOLD YOU NOT TO COME ...!
FLUTTER
SFX <SWOOSH>

Scanned by Team Iscariote, from #iscariote on irc.kewl.org

FOR GOD'S SAKE, YOU'RE SO GOOD AT PISSING PEOPLE OFF IT'S AMAZING
RYOUKO ...?
HE HE
YOU'RE THERE, AREN'T YOU?
MATSULIKA ...!!
THESE ARE JUST WORDS BUT ...

I...
ALSO SPECIALIZE IN MAKING HUMANS FEEL GOOD. YOU KNOW
MATSU-LIKA!
BREEZE
WHOOSH
!?

IN THIS CITY FULL OF MEMORIES
I WAS ABLE TO HAVE THE PLEASURE OF MEETING YOUR PRECIOUS FRIEND. ISN'T THAT SO RYOUKO?
WHY IS MATSULIKA HERE
THE ONE WHO'S BEEN SLAUGHTERING HUMANS UNTIL NOW IS HIBIKI, UNDER HER CONTROL
RYOUKO WAS FOLLOWING MATSULIKA
THAT GUY HIBIKI IS BEING MANIPULATED BY MATSULIKA

BUT BEING COMPLETELY USURPED
NOW, HE'S UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF ROUSHOUKI-SAMA.
I HAVE A PRINCIPLE OF NEVER LETTING GO OF THINGS ONCE THEY COME INTO MY POSSESSION.
NEVER.
AND YOU'RE NEXT, TSUGIRI.
THAT'S NOT SHARING.
COMPLETELY PASSIVE RESIGNATION AND OBEDIENCE
AN ERASURE OF HUMAN PERSONALITY AND A VOLUNTARY DEATH.
SHARE!?
FOR HIS FRIEND'S SAKE...?
YES HE MOVES AS I WILL WE SHARE A SOUL
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH ENJUU?

ROUSHOUKI-SAMA SAID ...
THAT IT WAS TO BE YOU AT ALL COSTS.
JUMP
GET BACK, TSUGIRI!
DON'T YOU GET INVOLVED ...!
I'M YOUR OPPONENT RYOUKO!

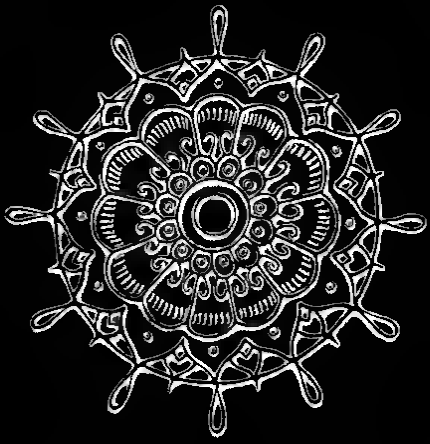
EVEN IF I FIGHT WITH THIS PERSON, IT'S POINTLESS! IF WE DON'T DEFEAT MATSULIKA ...
IT'S TOO BAD, BUT THIS TIME WE CAN'T JUST PLAY AROUND..
SFX <SLICE>
SFX <CLANG>

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)

SSS.
WHY DID MYOUBI FAIL?
ACCORDING TO THE CONTRACT, YOU AND MYOUBI SHOULD HAVE BECOME SHARERS OF THE SOUL IN THE SAME WAY THAT THAT MAN AND I DID
WHY DOES YOUR SELF REMAIN?

To reinforce its existence, an Alichino that has made a contract will gain equal life and power to that of the willing victim, who loses it.
However, in most circumstances the self should be lost.
And the human becomes a puppet controlled by the Alichino.
ON THE OTHER HAND... PERHAPS THIS IS THE REAL MEANING OF THE CONTRACT, AND THUS A SUCCESS?
YOU REALLY ARE...
SFX: <SPURTING BLOOD>
SFX: <SLICE>

YOU MUSTN'T FORGET.
THOUGH YOU CAN FLY AWAY FREELY, I WILL NOT ALLOW YOU TO BE AT PEACE
LIKE A SMALL BIRD WITH ITS FEET CUT OFF.
CHUCKLE
THE ONE YOU ONCE LOVED
ME
A COLD PERSON HUH?
ARE ABLE TO KILL ME OVER AND OVER AGAIN
BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS, WITHOUT CHANGING A SINGLE EXPRESSION AND WITHOUT ANY HINT OF HESITATION



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TO ANYONE BUT THEMSELVES, BECOMES A DEAD THING.
EXCEPT TO ONESELF...
ONE MUST BECOME A THING WITHOUT LIFE...
Chapter 14
Unity
IT'S BRINGING ABOUT COMPLETE INTEGRATION THROUGH A UNIFYING OF SOULS...
LEAP!
IN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES ..
THAT PERSON...

I...
CAME FOR YOU SO THAT I COULD BECOME ONE WITH RYOUKO.
PU-
Hibiki, 25 years old.
Oh! I can't take it. A little girl. You've gotta be kidding. Oh dear!
AHAHAHA WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO, RYOUKO, THIS GIRL'S SERIOUS!

OR SO I FIRST THOUGHT.

ALICHINO

WHEN I WOKE UP THIS MORNING, BEFORE I KNEW IT SHE'D GOTTEN INTO MY BED, YOU KNOW THAT!?
LIKE I SHOULD KNOW! I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON OVER HERE, TOO
Quit laughing
Ryouko, 24 years old. (body and spirit)
Living together
SNICKER
You bastard Enjoying this, aren't you?
THAT'S WHY I'M SAYING IT OVER AND OVER,
THAT I ONLY MET HER THIS MORNING FOR THE FIRST TIME
OH MY! NOT EVEN REMEMBERING, YOU'RE THE WORST!
And bringing someone over without telling me!
YEAH, BUT COME ON, IT'S ALL RIGHT
AH? WHAT IS?
Even if I really was drunk, I wouldn't bring a girl like that home.
SIGH— GIVE ME A BREAK, ALREADY

Edited by isonokami2, from #MangaProject on irc.mircx.com

ISN'T SHE? HER PURITY LEVEL IS WAY DIFFERENT FROM AMIYA'S
How do you do? Wah smooth skin light airy hair and sparkly eyes too
THWACK
I'VE NEVER SEEN A CHILD THIS PRETTY SHE'S LIKE A DOLL...
AMIYA!
WHAT'S GOING ON? THIS GIRL...
Amiya, 25 years old. Hibiki's lover.
IN FOUR OR FIVE MORE YEARS...
SHE'LL GET TO BE AN EXTRAORDINARY BEAUTY.
WOW! WHAT A PRETTY CHILD! ♡
YOU'LL BE A RUINED MAN, YOU KNOW?
It's too late for me
YOU TOO, RYOUKO IF YOU KEEP HANGING OUT WITH SOMEONE LIKE HIBIKI
Hehehe
Hehehe
Hehehe
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING TO YOUR CUSTOMER!?
I'LL BE FINE, I'VE HAD A DEPRIVED LIFESTYLE FROM THE START.

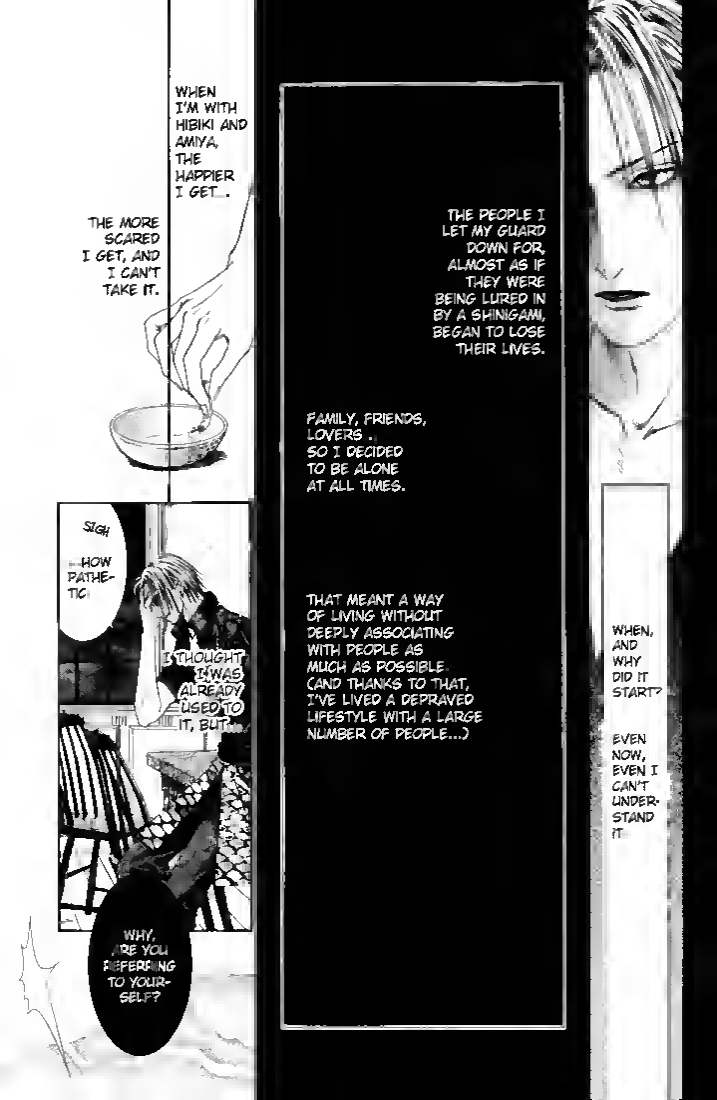
RUSTLE
I'M GOING
EH? LEAVING SO SOON?
SEE YOU LATER, RYOUKO
YOU'LL DEFINITELY BECOME UNABLE TO PART FROM ME
BECAUSE YOU MET ME TODAY...

TAP TAP TAP
IN-TENSE, ISN'T SHE
HAHA...
BUT WHY ME?
WELL, I'VE GOT TO GET BACK TO WORK
HEY, AMIYA, STOP BY THE HOUSE AFTER WORK IS OVER TO-NIGHT.
ALL RIGHT...
WHAT YOU WERE SAYING YESTERDAY, WAS THAT REALLY SERIOUS?
HUH?
THAT YOU WERE GOING TO LEAVE THIS CITY.
AH, BUT RYOUKO, I'M STILL AGAINST THAT DEPRAVED LIFESTYLE OF YOURS!
STILL LESS IF THERE'S A GIRL WHO ADORES YOU LIKE THAT...
MORE IMPOR-TANTLY...
EVEN THIS WAY IS BETTER THAN BEFORE

OF COURSE, WE'LL ALSO THROW A WELCOME-HOME PARTY.
BECAUSE I THINK OF YOU BOTH...
YOU BE HAPPY WITH AMIYA.
AS FRIENDS
EVEN THOUGH I'M SEDUCED SO PASSION-ATELY...
And by a guy!
RYOU-KO!
I'm being serious
HONESTLY, I DIDN'T INTEND TO STAY LONG FROM THE START.
EVENTUALLY, I BECAME TOO COMFORTABLE AND UNTIL NOW, I'VE BEEN SET-TLING DOWN, BUT...
YEAH, I THINK SO.
WHY IS IT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO LEAVE?
IF SO, THEN JUST STAY HERE FOREVER!
BUT I'VE ALREADY DECIDED.
THE REASON I'M LEAVING HERE IS BECAUSE IT'S COMFORT-ABLE
TO BOTH OF YOU... I'M REALLY THANKFUL.
FWIP
WHAT THE HELL!?
WELL, AT LEAST LET US THROW A PARTY TO SEE YOU OFF!
What?

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curioser.nu)

LOOKING AT IT LIKE THIS...
I ALMOST HAVE NO POSSESSIONS.
FLAP FLAP
GEEZ, THAT HIBIKI IS TOO MUCH OF A NICE GUY.
THAT'S THE WAY IT IS. I CAME TO LIVE HERE WITH NOTHING BUT MY OWN BODY.
THAT I...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, HAD LET MY GUARD DOWN.
THAT'S WHY IT'S BETTER IF I'M NOT HERE


WHEN I'M WITH HIBIKI AND AMIYA, THE HAPPIER I GET...
THE MORE SCARED I GET, AND I CAN'T TAKE IT.
THE PEOPLE I LET MY GUARD DOWN FOR, ALMOST AS IF THEY WERE BEING LURED IN BY A SHINIGAMI, BEGAN TO LOSE THEIR LIVES.
FAMILY, FRIENDS, LOVERS. SO I DECIDED TO BE ALONE AT ALL TIMES.
THAT MEANT A WAY OF LIVING WITHOUT DEEPLY ASSOCIATING WITH PEOPLE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. (AND THANKS TO THAT, I'VE LIVED A DEPRAVED LIFESTYLE WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE...)
WHEN, AND WHY DID IT START?
EVEN NOW, EVEN I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT.
SIGH
—HOW PATHETIC!
I THOUGHT I WAS ALREADY USED TO IT, BUT...
WHY, ARE YOU REFERRING TO YOURSELF?

YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THAT AMIYA PERSON, AREN'T YOU?
.....
YOU AGAIN, HUH DIDN'T YOU GO HOME?
BECAUSE SHE'S SOMEONE ELSE'S? OR...
ARE THERE ANY OTHER REASONS?
...IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH YOU, DOES IT.
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY DID YOU COME HERE AGAIN?
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS? BECAUSE I HAVEN'T ACHIEVED MY GOAL YET ♡
THAT BECOMING ONE THING WAS SHE SERIOUS?

...
HOW BEAUTIFUL YOUR SOUL IS
STOP SAYING INCOMPREHENSIBLE THINGS AND GO HOME ALREADY
WON'T THE PEOPLE AT YOUR HOUSE WORRY IF YOU'RE OUT WALKING THIS LATE ALL ALONE?
—ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT FAMILY?
YOU HAVEN'T REALIZED IT YOURSELF, HUH?
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING LIKE THAT.
AND...

IF IT'S WORRYING, I'M FINE IF YOU ALONE I DO THAT FOR ME
I ONLY WORRY ABOUT YOU, AFTER ALL
KNOCK
KNOCK
THIS GIRL JUST GETS WORSE AND WORSE...
HIBIKI?
YOU'RE LA...
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, HE HASN'T COME HOME YET...
Come in and wait
AMIYA
HEY! BE QUIET AND WAIT THERE FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
...BUT WEREN'T YOU TO-GETHER?
YEAH... ACTUALLY, I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU...
CAN'T WE TALK OUTSIDE?
I'LL W LK YOU HOME LATER.
ME? OKAY, BUT...

HEY... WHAT'S WITH THIS LL OF A SUDDEN?
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'RE GOING TO LEAVE THE CITY!?
WHY!? AND YOU'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN TO OPEN UP TO US
LOOKS LIKE SHE'S TAKEN QUITE A FANCY TO YOU.
HAHA
WHAT, NOW YOU?
STILL...
I FEEL LIKE I UNDERSTAND

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THAT'S SO CRUEL
WHAT WILL BECOME OF MY FEELINGS?
AMIYA?
AFTER ALL...
THE ONE IN MY HEART NOW ISN'T HIROKI...
RYOUKO, IT'S YOU...

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TITLE < CHAPTER 15 - NIGHT OF ILLUSIONS>

第十五章 幻想夜

PLEASE...!
...ARE YOU SERIOUSLY SAYING THIS?
IF YOU SAY YOU'RE LEAVING NO MATTER WHAT...
TAKE ME WITH YOU!
DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO HIBIKI, IT'LL JUST BE THE TWO OF US
IF WE DO THAT... EVERYTHING WILL CERTAINLY GO WELL.
...WON'T IT?
GRAB

Edited by isonokami2, from #MangaProject on irc.mirc.com

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ARE YOU...
REALLY AMIYA?
WHAT... ARE YOU SAYING?
LOOK INTO MY EYES AND SAY THAT ONCE AGAIN.
.....
...THAT HURTS. LET GO OF MY HAND.
THERE'S NO WAY AMIYA WOULD DO SUCH A THING LIKE BETRAY HIBIKI
AND MUCH LESS SHE WOULD DEFINITELY NEVER DO IT WHILE LAUGHING!
AND I WAS JUST ABOUT TO TRY TO SHOW YOU A LITTLE MEAGER HAPPINESS

!?
HE...
THE MAN CHOSEN BY THAT AMIYA WOMAN WASN'T ABLE TO SEE THROUGH ME.
PERHAPS THIS MEANS... THAT YOUR MIND WAS STRONGER?
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIBIKI!?
!!
SURPRISINGLY
HOW FOOLISH
IF I HAD DONE THAT, YOU MIGHT HAVE ATTAINED SOME HAPPINESS IN A WORLD FULL OF LIES

AROUND NOW HE SHOULD BE
ON THE CONTRARY, HE WAS SO GLAD HE WAS TREMBLING...!
WAS AMUSING. HE FELL INTO MY HANDS SO SIMPLY WITHOUT EVEN DOUBTING THE FAKE ME.
SORRY I'M LATE. HIBIKI?
—IS NO ONE HERE?
WHAT'S GOING ON? DID THE TWO OF THEM GO OUT ON SOME FRIENDLY EXCURSION?
CLICK

GEEZ!
WHAT'S WRONG, THAT YOU WOULD NEED TO HAVE A SWORD!?
IF YOU'RE THERE, ANSWER ME PROPERLY, DON'T SURPRISE ME.
WHAT HAP-PENED?
WHAAAT?
REALLY, WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE...
...!?

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www curiouser nu)

AH..
HIBIKI!?
ザッ
LEAVE HER ALONE, HIBIKI...!!

YOU BITCH, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HIBIKI!? TO WHAT END...
NO ONE'S VOICE BUT MINE WILL REACH HIM ANY-MORE.
IS THAT REALLY HIBIKI!?
!
OH! HAVEN'T YOU REALLY, DEEP IN YOUR HEART... ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT HAVING A COMPETITION WITH THAT MAN?
HIS EYES LOOK THE SAME, BUT...
HIBIKI!
TRI...
YOU BASTARD!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

IT'S TRUE, ISN'T IT?
IT'S ABSURD, TURNING OVER VICTORY TO YOUR OPPONENT WITHOUT FIGHTING
OR ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT MAN WITH ENVY?
ARE YOU DEFINITELY SAYING THAT YOU'VE NEVER EVEN ONCE WISHED TO MAKE THE HAPPINESS THAT MAN POSSESSES YOUR OWN?
STOP IT!!
IT'S OKAY
THE ANSWER WILL SOON APPEAR
!?

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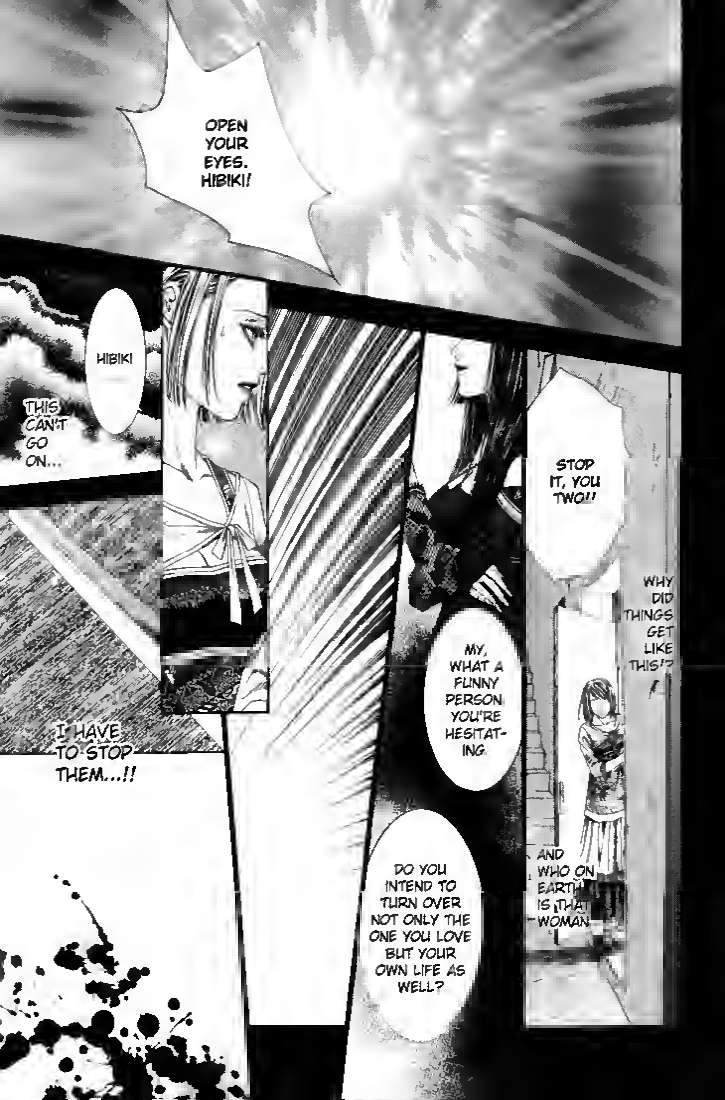
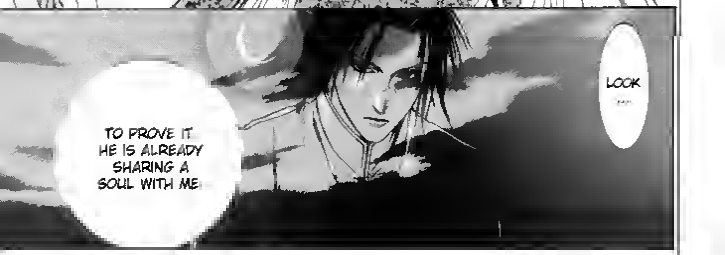

OPEN YOUR EYES. HIBIKI!
HIBIKI
THIS CAN'T GO ON...
I HAVE TO STOP THEM...!!
DO YOU INTEND TO TURN OVER NOT ONLY THE ONE YOU LOVE BUT YOUR OWN LIFE AS WELL?
MY, WHAT A FUNNY PERSON YOU'RE HESITATING.
STOP IT, YOU TWO!!
WHY DID THINGS GET LIKE THIS!?
AND WHO ON EARTH IS THAT WOMAN...

AMIYA!
DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'VE JUST DONE...!?
GUD

CLANK
AH... I WONDER IF IT'S NOT YET COMPLETE.
WHAT A BAD MAN, TO SHAKE SO MUCH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK...
...STOP FUCKING AROUND!
PEOPLE'S HEARTS ARE!?
.....
HOW DIS-GUST-ING

THIS GIRL IS...

MATSU-LIKA...
IT DOESN'T CONCERN ME WHERE OR WHAT YOU TRY TO DO, NOR DOES IT INTEREST ME.
BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO HURT RYOUKO, THAT'S A DIFFERENT MATTER!
YOU WERE SO PERSISTENT, I EVEN SHOWED YOU AN EXAMPLE
THIS IS UN-BELIEV-ABLE


LOOK ...
TO PROVE IT HE IS ALREADY SHARING A SOUL WITH ME

BUT...
THERE'S NO NEED TO BE DISAP-POINTED, RYOUKO
FROM NOW ON...
THESE TWO ARE IMPORTANT PEOPLE TO YOU, RYOUKO, AFTER ALL...
I WONDER IF THINGS WILL HAPPEN THE WAY THEY SHOULD THIS TIME TOO?
WHEN I THINK ABOUT IT..
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND DOING THINGS LIKE YOU, NOT DOING ANYTHING TO THE TARGETS I WANT AND ELIMINATING THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM...
..!!
ISN'T THAT SO, MYOUBI?
ALL OF THE MIS-FORTUNES THAT HAVE HAPPENED AROUND YOU UNTIL NOW WERE LARGELY HER DOING
WHAT ARE YOU...!?

AMIYA!?
BECOME AMIYA FOR YOU .
I'LL...
HIDIKI ...!!
RYOUKO...

WHAT HAP-PENED..?
WHY DID HIBIKI...?
THERE'S NO WAY HE WOULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS TO YOU, RIGHT!?
THAT... THAT WASN'T HIBIKI.

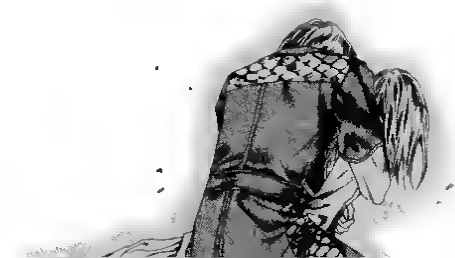
RYOUKO, YOU'RE SO KIND..
YOU'RE ALWAYS PLAYING TOUGH..
BUT I KNOW THAT THE TRUTH IS, YOU'RE HURT VERY EASILY...

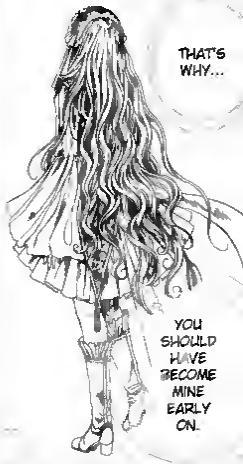
SLIP THROUGH MY HANDS...
.....
THE PRECIOUS ONES ALWAYS
FROM NOW ON...
YOU HAVE TO TREAT YOURSELF MORE PRE... CIOUSLY..
IT'S FINE IF YOU DON'T BECOME MINE
AMIYA?

IT'S FINE, JUST AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALWAYS THERE TO LAUGH FOR ME.

AMIYA
...!!

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE
MORE THAN THIS.





IF YOU HAD DONE THAT, I WOULD HAVE OVERLOOKED THOSE TWO

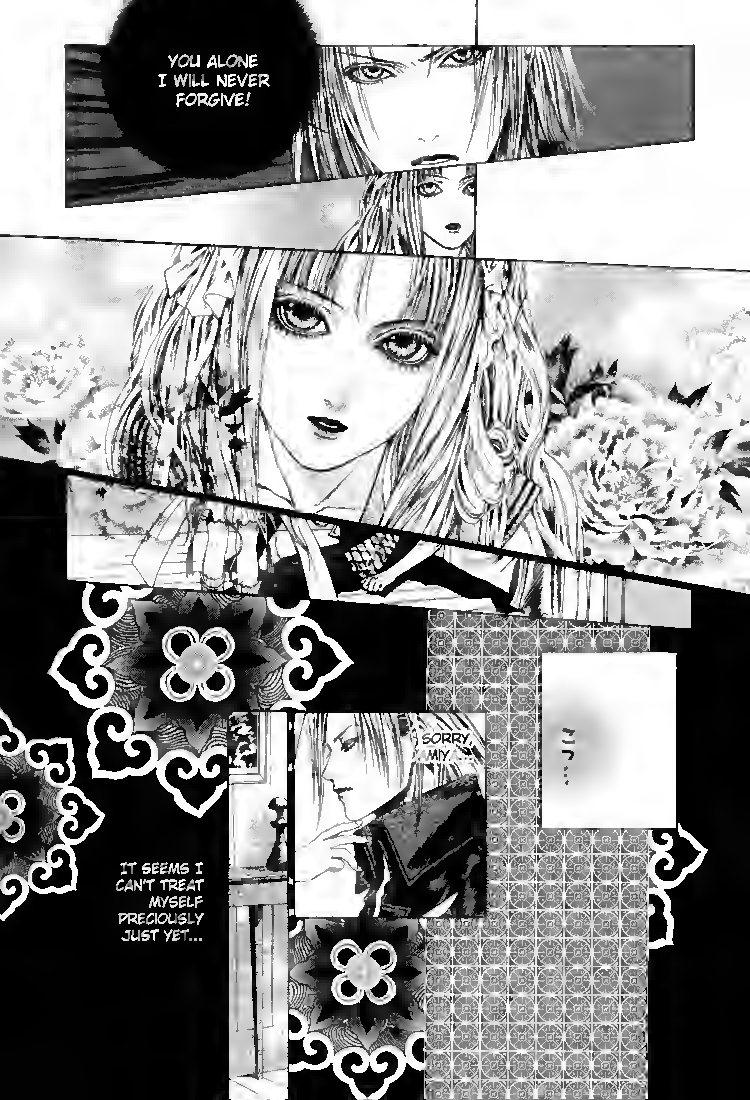
DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

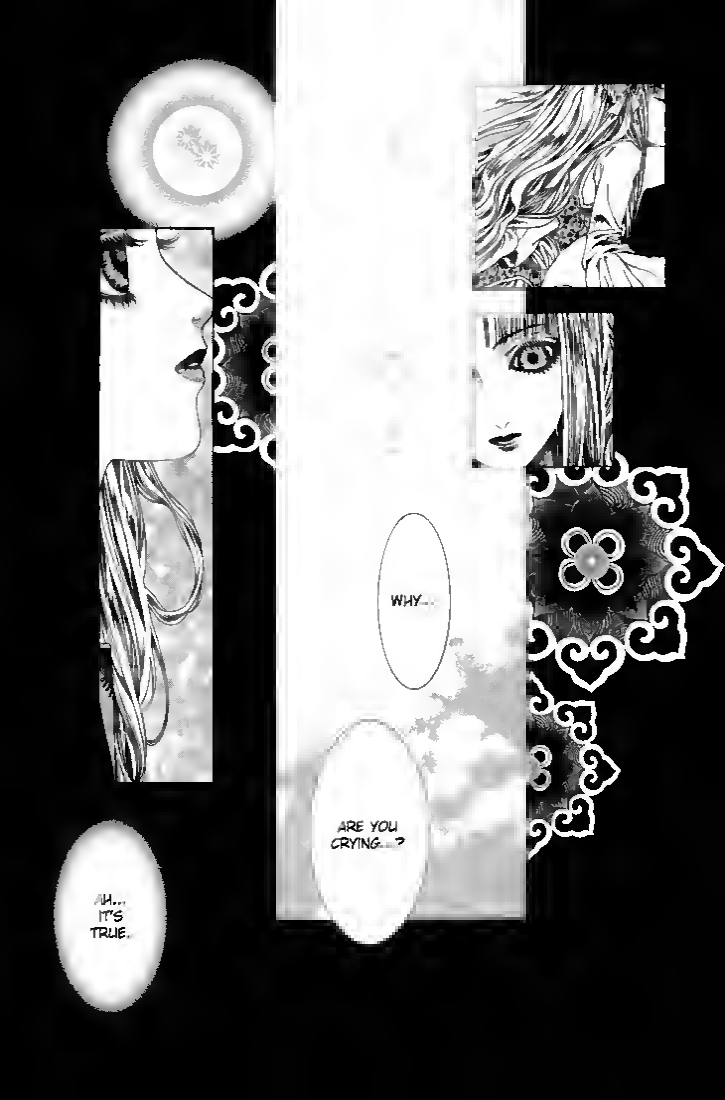
ALL OF IT... WAS YOUR PLOTTING?
.....
YOU PROBABLY KNOW MY OWL FORM QUITE WELL.
...IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT.
IF I WAS INVOLVED, MANIPULATING HUMAN HEARTS AND GAINING THEIR SOULS WOULD BE A SIMPLE THING.
BUT WITH YOU ALONE I WAS UNABLE TO MAKE THINGS GO AS PLANNED.
I COULDN'T FORGIVE YOU, WHO DIDN'T THINK OF ME AS NECESSARY AT ALL
BUT THERE WAS JUST ONE BIG MISCALCULATION.
AT THAT TIME, I THOUGHT THAT NO MATTER WHAT I HAD TO DO, I WOULD POSSESS YOUR SOUL.

WHILE I WAS GETTING LOST IN CONTEMPLATION OF HOW I WOULD POSSESS THE SOUL OF THE UNCONQUERABLE RYOUKO...
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS THE ONE WHO BECAME UNABLE TO ESCAPE YOUR SOUL
YOU'RE SAYING THAT BECAUSE OF THAT YOU ELIMINATED ALL THE HUMANS I ASSOCIATED WITH!?
IF THAT WAS THE CASE, SHOULDN'T YOU HAVE JUST TARGETTED ME DIRECTLY?
...IF I COULD HAVE DONE THAT, I WOULDN'T SUFFER
HIBIKI... WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM?
WHAT CAN I DO TO RETURN HIM TO NORMAL?

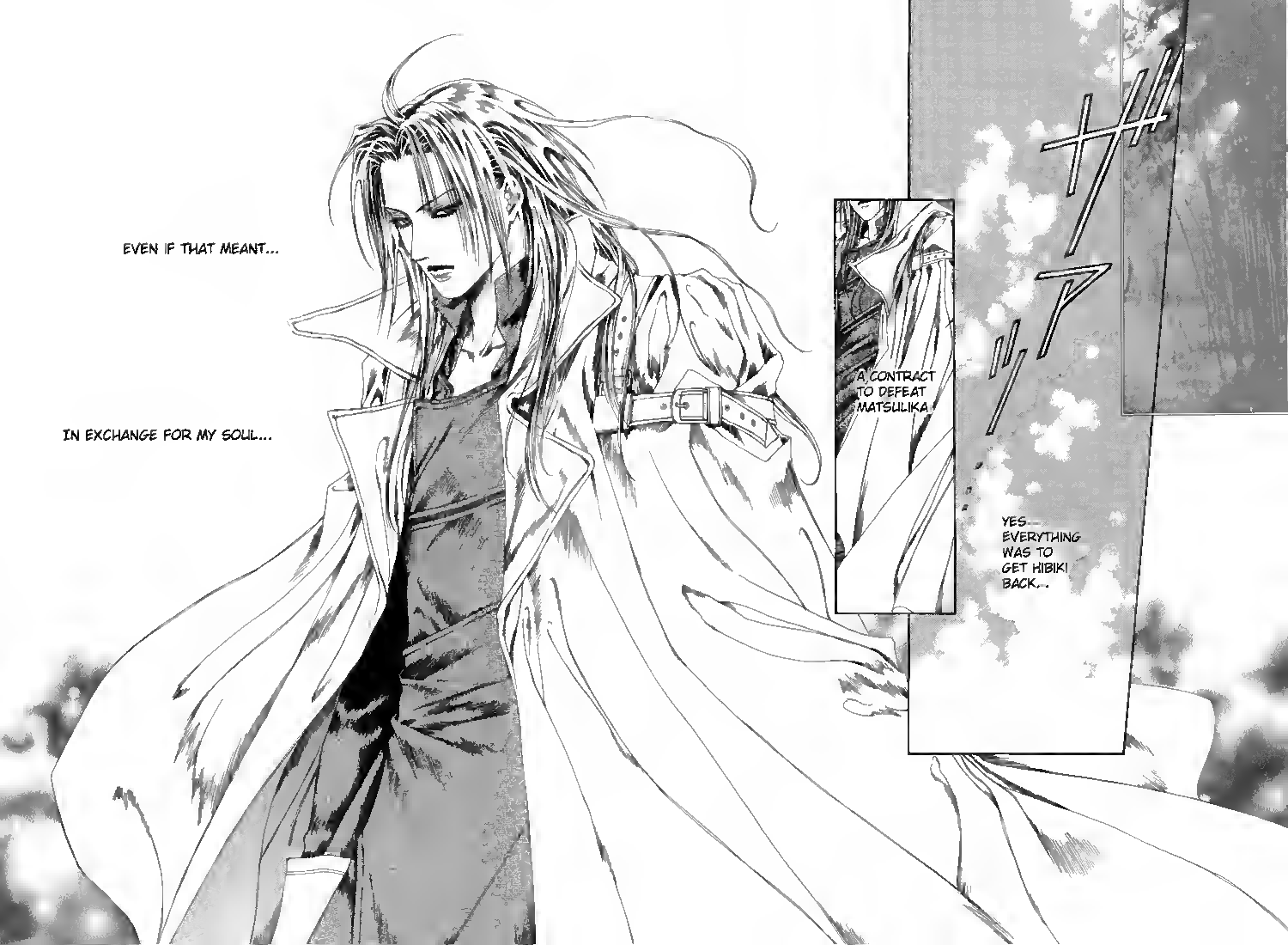
HE HAS ALREADY BECOME PART OF MATSU-LIKA.
IF YOU ANNIHI-LATED MATSU-LIKA'S SOUL...
YOU COULD FREE HIBIKI, BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE THE POWER
BUT I COULD GRANT YOU THAT POWER IF YOU WISH IT SO.
I'LL JUST BECOME YOU IN COMPEN-SATION.
AND...
IF YOU BECOME ONE WITH ME YOU WILL NO LONGER LOSE ANY MORE OF THE PEOPLE PRECIOUS TO YOU
IF YOU BECOME MINE...
THERE WILL NO LONGER BE ANY NEED FOR ELIMINATION.

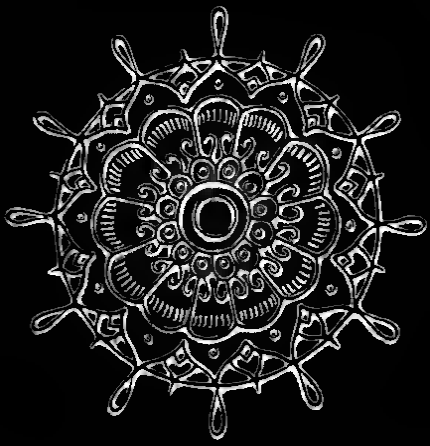
HEH...
WHAT AN OUTRAGEOUS THREAT.
FINE.
IF YOU PUT IT THAT WAY, I'LL JOIN YOU.
IN EXCHANGE...
AFTER MATSULIKA, YOU'RE NEXT.


YOU ALONE I WILL NEVER FORGIVE!
SORRY, MIY...
IT SEEMS I CAN'T TREAT MYSELF PRECIOUSLY JUST YET...


WHY...
ARE YOU CRYING...?
AH... IT'S TRUE.

I FINALLY UNDERSTAND.
I WANTED...
BUT THE LIVING RYOUKO...
NOT THE SOUL...


EVEN IF THAT MEANT...
IN EXCHANGE FOR MY SOUL...
A CONTRACT TO DEFEAT MATSULIKA
YES— EVERYTHING WAS TO GET HIBIKI BACK...



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Chapter 16 -
Unspoken Secret

A reason to be helplessly, intensely attracted.
To a human who should have been captured.

"I KNOW OF ONE OTHER ALICHINO WHO SAID THE SAME THING..."
"PERHAPS DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT IS LEANING TOWARDS TABOO."
OR SO SHE WAS SAYING, BUT...
MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHAT ON EARTH IS MATSULIKA PLANNING TO DO WITH THIS?

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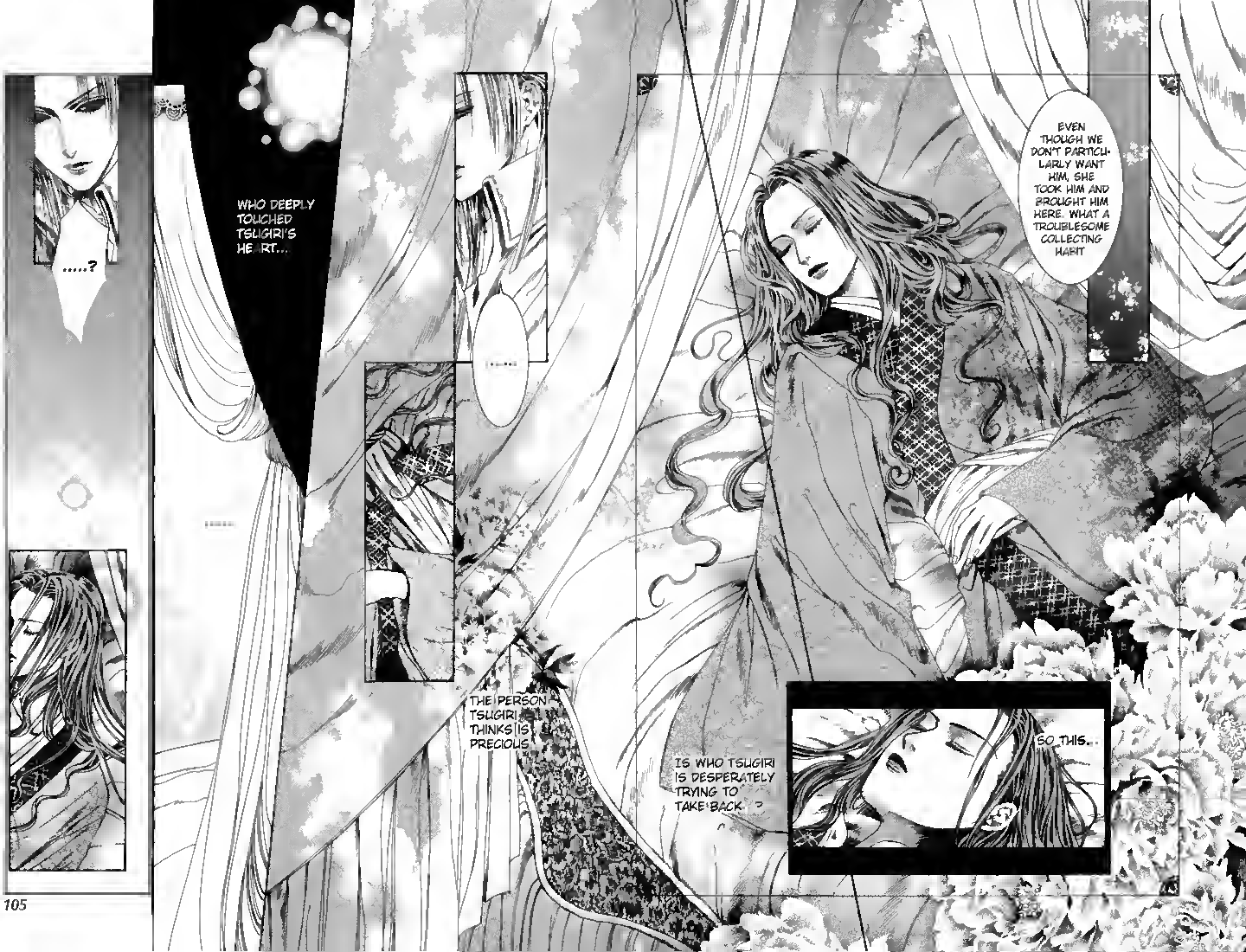
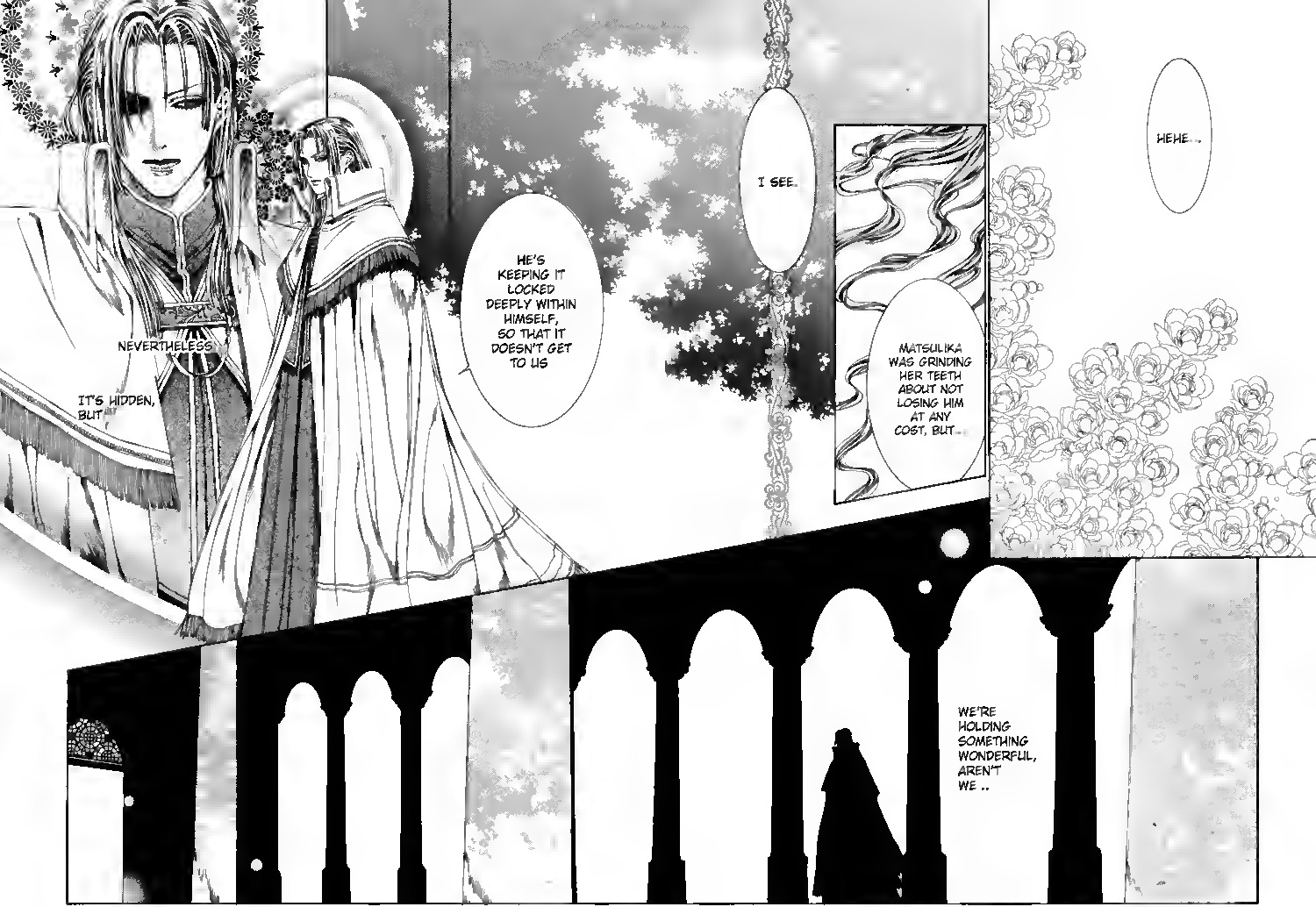

.....?
WHO DEEPLY TOUCHED TSUGIRI'S HEART...
.....
THE PERSON TSUGIRI THINKS IS PRECIOUS
IS WHO TSUGIRI IS DESPERATELY TRYING TO TAKE BACK...?
EVEN THOUGH WE DON'T PARTICULARLY WANT HIM, SHE TOOK HIM AND BROUGHT HIM HERE. WHAT A TROUBLESOME COLLECTING HABIT
SO THIS..
THIS IS


NEVERTHELESS
IT'S HIDDEN, BUT
HE'S KEEPING IT LOCKED DEEPLY WITHIN HIMSELF, SO THAT IT DOESN'T GET TO US
I SEE..
MATSULIKA WAS GRINDING HER TEETH ABOUT NOT LOSING HIM AT ANY COST, BUT...
HEHE...
WE'RE HOLDING SOMETHING WONDERFUL, AREN'T WE ..

Edited by isanokami2 from #MangaProject on irc.mircx.com

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)

I WONDER HOW LONG THIS PERSON'S BODY AND SOUL HAVE BEEN BOUND TOGETHER
MATSUJIKA OBSTINATELY CLINGS TO HIBIKI ONLY BECAUSE RYOUKO WILL TRY TO TAKE HIM BACK
SURELY RYOUKO UNDERSTANDS THAT TOO
HE UNDERSTANDS, BUT MERELY BECAUSE HE CAN'T NOT FOLLOW THEM...
!?

SFX <PUNCH>
JUST NOW...
!?
SFX <SLIDE>
!!
AH...
.....

KEEP HOLDING HIM LIKE THAT.
NOW, NOW...
IS IT REALLY ALL RIGHT TO HURT YOUR PRECIOUS "BOND."?
YOU'LL GET SCOLDED BY ROUSHOUKI-SAMA, WON'T YOU?
CER-TAINLY
I'VE BEEN COM-MANDED TO KEEP HIM ALIVE, BUT...
AS FOR UNDAMAGED..., THERE WAS NO SUCH REQUEST.

YOU SEEM TO BE MISTAKING SOMETHING ELSE ON TOP OF THAT...
SO I'LL TELL YOU.
I'M BEING AMIYA FOR YOUR SAKE
EVEN IF AMIYA HAD LIVED ON WITHOUT DYING BACK AT THAT TIME...
THE FACT THAT EVENTUALLY SHE WOULD HAVE GROWN OLD AND UGLY AND DIED DOESN'T CHANGE.
HOWEVER, IF SHE'S ME, I CAN STAY IN THE BEAUTIFUL FORM OF THAT TIME FOREVER.

Scanned by Team Iscariote from #iscariote on irc.kewl.org

IF YOU THINK OF THAT, THEN THAT MAN IS ALSO HAPPIER IF YOU'RE WITH ME. ISN'T THAT SO?
SQUEEZ
WHAT POWER..!!
..VOICE?
...CAN YOU HEAR MY VOICE...
THE VOICE OF HIBIKI THAT'S BEEN SUPPRESSED!?
LISTEN TO MY REQUEST.

IS THAT YOUR FINAL WISH...?
YOU'LL STAB ME AND NOT LET IT GET TO YOU.
.....
AND AS FOR RYOUKO ...
...EVEN IF WE KILL MATSULIKA, WITHOUT A DOUBT THAT PERSON WILL NOT COME BACK TO LIFE.
IF THAT'S SO...
SHIC
EVEN IF IT'S JUST HIS SOUL ...!!

SFX <JUMP>
YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST...
SFX <LAND>
STAYED WHERE YOU WERE!
SWISH
FLAP
SFX <FLIP>

YOU FOOL! I TOLD YOU NOT TO GET IN-VOLVED!

THIS IS...
SOMETHING I HAVE TO BEAR ON MY SHOULDERS ALONE.

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Chapter 17 - Sacrament

RYOUKO, WOULD YOU PLEASE NOT GET IN THE WAY?
RIGHT NOW MY FIRST PRIORITY IS TO TAKE THE "BOND" HOME.
I DON'T REALLY CARE, BUT
SO PLEASE ALLOW ME, AMIYA, TO BE YOUR OPPONENT AT ANOTHER TIME
AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE MIS-TAKEN?
YOU'RE AMIYA?
CAN YOU EVEN SMILE THE SAME WAY AMIYA DID?
YOU'VE GOT TO BE JOKING!
I HAVE NEVER, NOT EVEN ONCE, THOUGHT OF YOU AS AMIYA!

THE ONE WHO'S WARPING IT INTO UGLINESS...
IS YOU, MATSULIKA!!
.....
HAS HIBIKI EVER LAUGHED NEAR YOU EVEN ONCE?
HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT YOUR OWN FACE IN THE MIRROR?
BECAUSE I THOUGHT THAT WOULD INFILTRATE YOUR HEART BETTER THAN DEFEATING YOU...
UNTIL NOW, I'VE ALLOWED YOU TO KILL ME ON PURPOSE
SHD
IF I'M NOT AMIY TO YOU, THEN...
BUT I'VE HAD ENOUGH.

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THERE'S NO LONGER ANY NEED TO ATTACH MYSELF TO SOMETHING LIKE THIS, IS THERE!?
SINCE I'VE H. D THE SOUL IN MY H. NDS FROM THE START, I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST LOSING THE BODY.

Translated by Jennifer Lillie (www.curiouser.nu)

I'VE GONE TO A LOT OF TROUBLE, SO...
FROM NOW ON I'LL CHOOSE A NEW TOY!
ザララ…
RYOUKO
……

YOU BITCH
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!!
RYOUKO !!

IF WE DON'T COMPLETELY ELIMINATE MATSUUKA'S SOUL WE CAN'T SAVE HIBIKI'S SOU...
FOR YOU, WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE "BOND," IT'S...
LET GO, TSUGIRI!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU, RYOUKO.
THAT'S WHY YOU MADE A CONTRACT WITH MYOUBI, RIGHT?
WHAT'S MORE...
DON'T WORRY.
WHILE I WAS MAKING THE CONTRACT WITH MYOUBI, I, TOO, BECAME UNABLE TO DIE COMPLETELY.

IS HE PLANNING TO. ATONE FOR IT?
DON'T YOU THINK IT'S WONDERFUL WHEN SOME-ONE'S HEART BECOMES FULL OF YOU?
EVEN IF...
IT'S HATE...
BUT THAT WON'T DO ANY GOOD IN THE END...
BECAUSE THAT PERSON, HIBIKI, IS...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU DON'T HAVE THINGS LIKE DISTRESS AND PAIN, DOES IT?
EVEN SO...

WHAT SHOULD I DO...
THAT'S STRANGE. WHY DO YOU CHOOSE TO FIGHT WITH ONLY YOUR OWN POWER?
WHY DO YOU NOT CHOOSE TO USE IT?
IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT YOU HAVE SHARED POWER WITH MYOUB!

HEH!
OBSTINATE!
YOU'RE REALLY
IT'S NOT OVER YET!!

RYOUKO!!
THE THING
I SHOULD DO IS...
NO, THE IMPORTANT THING IS...

WHAT I WANT TO DO!
OR, PERHAPS YOU CAN'T BRING OUT YOUR POWERS IF MYOUBI ISN'T HERE?
WITH THAT KIND OF POWER, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN SAVE NOW WHAT YOU COULDN'T SAVE AT THAT TIME!?
GU... AH!!
HAA
IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THAT BADLY, I'LL TELL YOU.

EVEN IF I SOLD MY SOUL...
THAT DOESN'T MEAN I SURRENDERED MY SPIRIT
NOW I FEEL LIKE I UNDERSTAND A LITTLE..
HEH
TO USE YOUR KIND OF POWER!
OF WHY MYOUBI WAS SO PARTICULAR ABOUT YOU..
BUT.. IT'S NOT OVER YET
I'LL REVIVE MYSELF ANYWAY..
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES, I'LL FIND YOU! OLIT
HM
AND KILL YOU.

I'LL END IT RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW!
.....
YOU WILL RETURN EVERY-THING.
HIBIKI'S SOUL
THAT APPEAR-ANCE...
AND ENJU.
HOW GREEDY I TOLD YOU HE'S UNDER THE SUPER-VISION OF ROU-SHOUKI-SAMA
AND THAT'S NOT ALL THAT PERSON HAS OWNERSHIP OF YOUR SOUL AS WELL.
THAT TIME YOU DIED, YOUR SOUL AUTO-MATICALLY BECAME THEIRS...

RYOUKO, DO YOU REALIZE?
YOU REALLY ARE SOMEONE WHO NEVER LEARNS.
ZAA
ZAA
ZAA
NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU TRY TO BE ALONE

SOMEONE WILL ALWAYS BE NEAR YOU...

WHAT IS YOUR GOAL!? NOT WHO WOULD DEFEAT MATSULIKA, BUT TO SAVE YOUR FRIEND, HIBIKI, RIGHT!?
I..
I THOUGHT I WANTED TO RELEASE NOT JUST HIBIKI FROM THIS CURSE, BUT YOU TOO, SO I...
TSU-GIRL
I WON'T APOLOGIZE!

EVER SINCE THEN, WANTED TO ASK YOU...
I HAVE, ALWAYS...
AND HIBIKI SAID TO HELP RYOUKO HIS FRIEND
AND...

IF YOU WOULD STILL PERMIT ME TO CALL YOU A FRIEND EVEN NOW.
HEY
WHY DO YOU TRY TO KEEP PEOPLE AT A DISTANCE LIKE THAT?
...I LIKE BEING ALONE.
...
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY SAYING THAT?
EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SEE HOW YOU COULD POSSIBLY BE HAVING FUN ALONE?
EH!? DO YOU MEAN TO SAY WE'RE NOT FRIENDS !?
AM I THE ONLY ONE THINKING THAT...?
YOU KNOW, I THINK THAT EVEN IF A PERSON INTENDS TO LIVE ALONE...
IF THERE'S SOMEONE WHO THINKS OF YOU AS PRECIOUS...
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DID YOU FORGET?
THAT PERSON IS ALREADY A PRECIOUS HUMAN TO YOU, TOO.
WHAT HAVE I BEEN SEEING UNTIL NOW? IF I TALKED ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT, YOU'D HIT ME...
スッ
THE ONE WHO SAID IT FIRST WAS YOU, RYOUKO.
TO USE WHATEVER I CAN USE, NO MATTER WHAT IT WAS.
IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAY...
REALLY
SO FULL OF YOURSELF!
OW!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? THAT HURTS, YOU...

THANKS
U——H...
RYOU KO?
AH I MIGHT HAVE LOST TOO MUCH BLOOD
GUESS I WAS OVER-DOING IT AFTER ALL
ALICHINO3 完

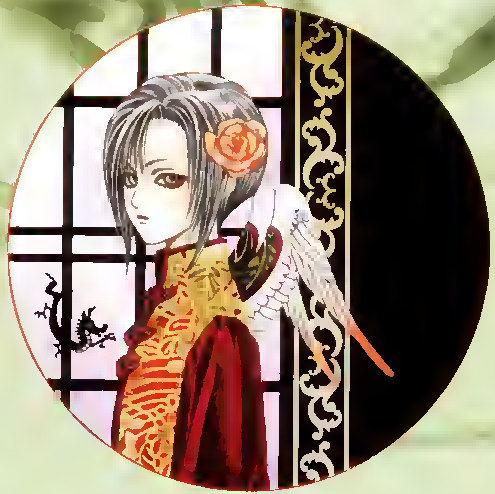
AFTERWORD:

Hello, this is Kouyu Shurei.
Finally, it's Volume 3 of Aichino.
Since I started drawing manga, I feel the time pass so quickly I can't believe it. (Even though over a year has passed since Volume Two...) Before I know it, it's been three and half years that I've continued drawing. It was really a fumbling start, and I'm so happy that I've made even a little progress.

This time, Ryouko stood out more than the main character Tsugiri, but to me it was a "Ryouko and Myoubi Section." I'm thinking it would be nice to "close up" each character while entwining their stories with Tsugiri. Which means that the next section will be drawing nearer to Enju (Laughs).

Regarding the work of Volume 3, I am again indebted to many people. I'm in tears with gratitude, really. Also, to those who took this volume into their hands, thank you.

Kouyu Shurei, May 2001



To be continued.

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